



Laboratory wins national award for sustainable purchasing

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For the fourth year, the Laboratory has been recognized by the Department of Energy (DOE) with a GreenBuy Gold Award for achieving excellence in sustainable acquisition for fiscal year 2019.

Shab Fardanesh, the Sustainable Acquisition Coordinator at DOE, congratulated the Laboratory on this year's win. "Please accept our heartfelt appreciation and best wishes for your achievement in attaining excellence in Sustainable Acquisition. We realize each year achieving the Green Buy award is more difficult because we are rewarding continuous improvement."

Under the Green Buy Award Program, DOE sites across the country (including the Laboratory) receive recognition for running purchasing programs that obtain sustainable products, save energy, conserve water and reduce health and environmental impact.

The continued success of the sustainable program at the Laboratory was the result of joint efforts from the Laboratory's Small Business Program and its Environmental Stewardship Group. Since the initiative was created in 2011, the Laboratory has won four gold and one bronze awards.

"The Lab is committed to sustainable acquisition, and this is one way that we contribute in that effort," said Warren Finch, deputy division leader at Acquisition Services Management (ASM), the division which manages all procurement at the Laboratory. "By achieving this award, it demonstrates not only ASM's commitment to buying "green" products, but also our suppliers' commitment to providing them."

Sustainable acquisition involves life cycle analysis, which considers:

- how products are made,
- the materials in the products,
- where they come from and
- how they will be disposed of.

Products that meet green requirements include everything from adhesives to reusable moving bins that eliminate the need to recycle cardboard boxes.

"Receiving a gold level Green Buy award is confirmation that the Laboratory is working hard to do the right thing in the procurement of more environmentally-friendly products," said Kassidy Boorman, the Lab's pollution prevention program manager.

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